

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Machado Jr. et al.

Appl. No. 09/641,394

Filed: August 18, 2000

A Method, System and Computer

Program Product for Valuating Natural Gas Contracts Using

Weather-Based Metrics

Confirmation No. 7165

Art Unit: 3621

Examiner: John Winter

Atty. Docket: 1481.0240000

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312

Mail Stop Issue Fee

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please Ester,

Submitted herein is an Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312. As payment of the issue fee has not yet been made or is filed herewith, Applicants respectfully submit that filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312 is proper. (M.P.E.P. § 714.16.)

It is believed that extensions of time are not required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this Amendment. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.